

UNITED STATES NAVY DEPARTMENT

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION

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# UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA FOREIGN NAVIES

1941



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## FOREWORD

The contents of this pamphlet is abstracted from the training course for "Signalman 1c and Chief Signalman" published in 1941. The information contained herein is the latest available on the subject matter at this time. The Bureau proposes by means of this pamphlet to distribute the contained information to all naval forces.

(III)



## UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA OF FOREIGN NAVIES

### GENERAL

The uniforms and insignia of the navies of foreign powers are so varied in design, style, and color that it is impossible to give a detailed description of all of them in this assignment. Figures 1, 2, and 3, show the sleeve markings of the officers of the principal navies of the world. For clearness, the foreign titles of the various ranks have been omitted and only their corresponding rank with the United States Navy given. For instance, the title of a commander in the French Navy is "Capitaine de fregate," in the Japanese Navy he is "Chu-sa." The rank of naval officers of all the great powers is indicated by stripes of braid worn on the sleeves between the elbow and the lower edge of the cuff, and in most cases by similar stripes or other insignia worn upon straps placed on the shoulders between the base of the collar and the sleeve at the shoulder seam. You should, therefore, learn the foreign sleeve markings so that you can report foreign officers coming alongside correctly to the officer of the deck in order that proper honors may be rendered.

To further help you to recognize the rank of the leading maritime nations' naval officers and personnel, a short description of the service uniforms and insignia worn by the officers and enlisted men of the navies of Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Germany, and Russia are given in this assignment.

### UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA OF THE BRITISH NAVY

In general the uniforms of the British Navy correspond quite closely to those of the United States Navy in composition and design and are worn upon similar occasions. They are somewhat more elaborate and the insignia are of different design.

GREAT BRITAIN	GERMANY	FRANCE	ITALY	HOLLAND	JAPAN
		ADMIRAL			
		VICE - ADMIRAL			
		REAR ADMIRAL			
		CAPTAIN			
		COMMANDER			
		LIEUTENANT COMMANDER			
		LIEUTENANT			
		LIEUTENANT (j.g.)			
		ENSIGN			

FIGURE 1.

NORWAY	SWEDEN	DENMARK	SPAIN	RUSSIA	TURKEY
			ADMIRAL		
			VICE - ADMIRAL		
			REAR ADMIRAL		
			COMMODORE		
			CAPTAIN		
			COMMANDER		
			LIEUTENANT COMMANDER		
			LIEUTENANT		
			LIEUTENANT (j.g.)		
			ENSIGN		

FIGURE 2.





















































PORTUGAL	CHILE	BRAZIL	CHINA	PERU	ARGENTINA
					
					
					
					
					
					
					
					
					

FIGURE 3.

The full dress consists of the cocked hat; a dark blue swallow-tailed double-breasted coat, with two rows of eight gilt buttons, white slash on sleeves, gold rank stripes and gold epaulets; dark blue trousers with gold stripe, and black shoes. The collars are white, those of flag officers being embroidered with gold oak leaf, those of other officers being trimmed at the top with one inch and at the bottom with one-half inch gold lace. The slash, worn on both cuffs is set forward of the center and over the rank stripes. It is about seven inches high and two and one-half inches wide. For flag officers it is embroidered with oak leaf pattern; for other officers it is laced around top, bottom, and outer edge with one-half inch lace. The flaps on the skirt are laced with one and three-quarters inch gold lace for flag officers and one inch for other officers. A row of one inch lace encircles the back buttons and for flag officers, forms a point above them on the coats.

The ball dress is practically the same as the evening dress of the United States naval officer. The frock coat dress and blue and white mess dress is the same as the corresponding United States naval uniforms. The blue undress uniform of the British naval officer differs from the service dress of the United States naval officer in that the coat worn with it has two rows of four buttons each down the front. The white undress of the British officer is the same as the white service dress of the American officer.

The rank of British naval officers is shown by insignia of rank on the tops of the epaulets with uniforms with which epaulets are worn, but with all of the blue uniforms the rank is also indicated by stripes of gold lace braid around the sleeves of the coat above the cuff. The number and arrangements of these rank stripes are shown in figure 1.

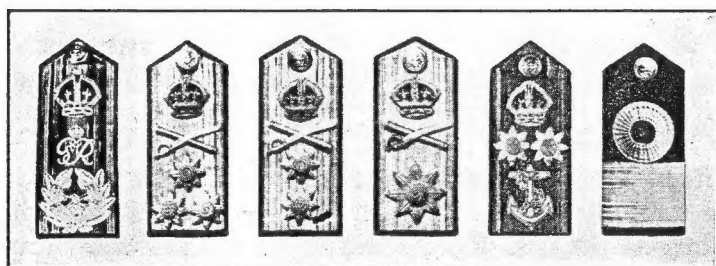
With white mess dress and the white undress the rank is indicated by the stripes of gold braid or by other insignia of rank worn upon the shoulder straps. These shoulder straps are also worn with the great coat. There are no sleeve stripes on the white coats or the great coat.

The insignia of rank used on the shoulder straps of British

naval officers are shown in figure 4. Figure 5 shows the insignia of rank used on epaulets. Figure 6 shows the insignia of rank for British reserve officers.

The corps or branch of the service to which an officer belongs is shown as follows on the sleeves and shoulder straps:

Officers of the line—	By the circle or "curl" on the upper stripe of gold lace braid.
Engineer officers—	By the circle or "curl" as above with the addition of stripes of purple cloth between the gold stripes.
Medical officers—	The circle or "curl" is omitted and there are stripes of scarlet cloth between the gold stripes.
Accountant or pay officers—	The circle or "curl" is omitted and there are stripes of white cloth between the gold stripes.
Naval instructors—	The circle or "curl" is omitted and there are stripes of light blue cloth between the gold stripes.



Admiral  
of the Fleet

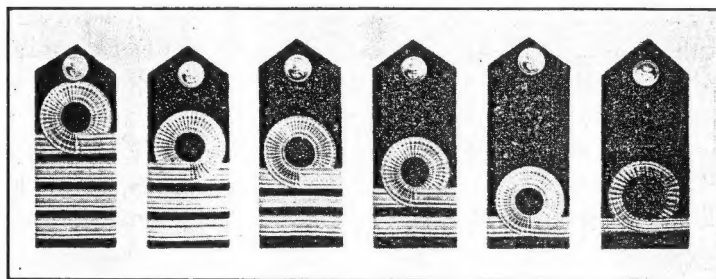
Admiral  
Left shoulder

Vice Admiral  
Left shoulder

Rear Admiral  
Left shoulder

Commodore,  
First Class

Commodore,  
Second Class



Captain  
Left shoulder

Commander  
Right shoulder

Lieutenant  
Commander  
Left shoulder

Lieutenant  
Left shoulder

Sublieutenant  
or Commissioned  
Officer from  
Warrant Rank  
Left shoulder

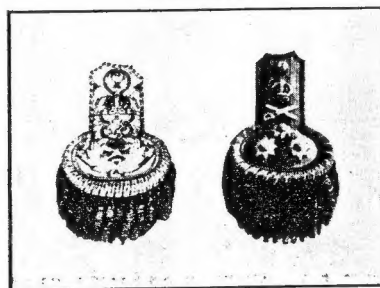
Warrant  
Officer  
Left shoulder

FIGURE 4.—British Navy shoulder marks.

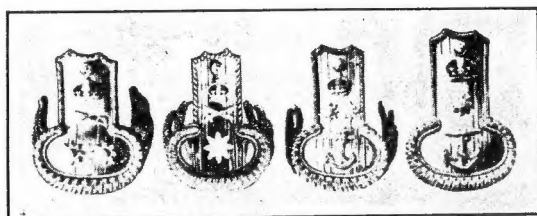


The caps and cocked hats of the British Navy are similar to those worn by United States naval officers. The cap insignia worn by commissioned officers are embroidered on the front of the cap and consist of a vertical foul anchor surrounded by a gilt wreath and surmounted by a royal

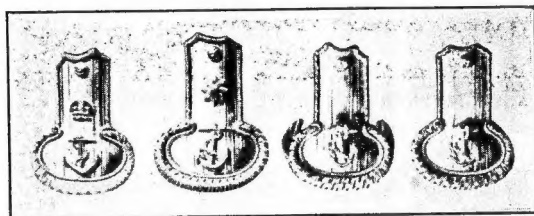
## EPAULETS



Admiral of the Fleet

Admiral  
Left shoulderVice Admiral  
Right shoulderRear Admiral  
Left shoulderCommodore, First  
or Second Class

Captain



Commander

Lieutenant  
Commander

Lieutenant

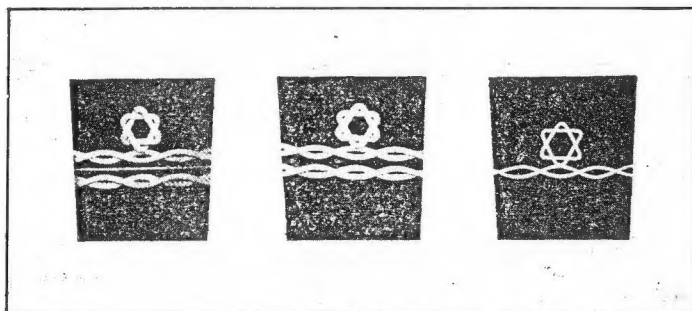
Sublieutenant or  
Commissioned Officer  
from Warrant Rank—  
no bullions

FIGURE 5.—British Navy epaulets.

crown in gilt and scarlet; the anchor being silver in the case of officers of the line.

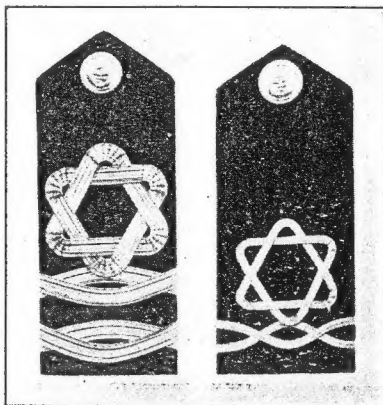
The officers of the British Naval Air Service wear as a distinguishing mark of their service a badge composed of a silver anchor and cable embroidery surrounded by a laurel wreath

## ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE—CUFFS AND SHOULDER STRAPS.

Lieutenant Commander,  
R. N. R.

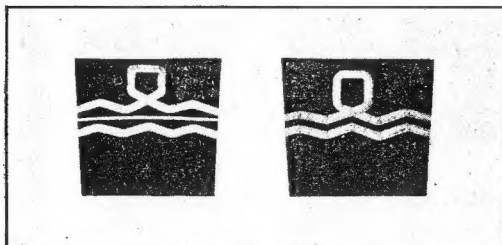
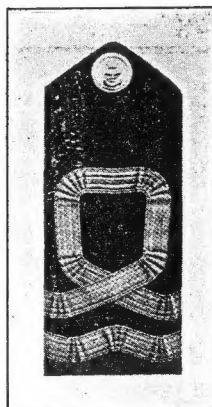
Lieutenant, R. N. R.

Skipper, R. N. R.



Lieutenant, R. N. R.

Skipper, R. N. R.

ROYAL NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE—CUFFS  
AND SHOULDER STRAPS.Lieutenant Commander.  
R. N. V. R. *Right sleeve*Lieutenant, R. N. V. R.  
*Right sleeve*Lieutenant, R. N. V. R.  
*Right shoulder*

of silver superimposed on the wings of an albatross, in gold embroidery. This badge is worn on each sleeve above the rank stripes. Their cap insignia differs in that it has a silver spread eagle in the center in place of the anchor worn there by other officers. Their service buttons also have the spread eagle in place of the anchor.

Officers of the Royal Naval Division detailed for duty on shore wear a uniform of khaki-colored cloth similar in design to the service uniform of British Army officers; their sleeves bearing the rank stripes of the same widths, number, and arrangements as for other naval officers but made of braid of a slightly different shade than the material of the coat, and their shoulder straps bear the same insignia of rank as that worn by the corresponding grades in the army.

The enlisted men of the British Navy wear uniforms very similar in general design to those worn in the United States Navy with minor differences in the dimensions and cut of the various garments. The chief petty officers wear uniforms of blue or white consisting of a bell crowned cap with a black mohair band, a black patent-leather visor and insignia consisting of two concentric circles surrounding a vertical fowl anchor surmounted by a British Crown; a double-breasted sack coat with two rows of gilt service buttons; and plain trousers. Other petty officers and seamen wear the sailor cap, wide-collared shirt, and very wide trousers similar to the American Service, the collar having three rows of narrow white braid around the edges with a black neckerchief knotted beneath it. The cap has a black silk ribbon around the band upon which is the name of the ship in gilt block letters.

#### UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA OF THE FRENCH NAVY

The uniforms of the officers and men of the French Navy, while following in general the usual naval style present some variations as to the combinations of garments, the decorations, the number and arrangements of the rank stripes on the sleeve, and the designs of the insignia of rank and corps.

Commissioned officers are provided with five separate uniforms, full dress, No. 1 dress, No. 2 dress, No. 3 dress blue, and No. 3 dress white.

The full dress consists of a cocked hat, a dark blue double breasted cutaway frock coat, gilt epaulets, dark blue cloth trousers decorated with gold lace stripes down the outer seams.

No. 1 dress corresponds to the United States naval officer's full dress uniform and consists of a cocked hat, blue cap or white cap, a dark blue double breasted frock coat with epaulets, and plain dark blue or white trousers.

No. 2 dress corresponds to the undress uniform of the United States naval officer and consists of the blue or white cap, the dark blue frock coat or the white tunic and dark blue or white trousers.

No. 3 dress, blue, corresponds to the blue service dress of the United States naval officer and consists of the dark blue cap, dark blue frock coat, or dark blue tunic (sack coat), and dark blue or white trousers.

No. 3 dress, white, corresponds to the white service dress of the United States naval officer and consists of the white cap, white tunic, and white trousers.

Black shoes are worn with all except white uniforms, with which white shoes are worn.

The rank of commissioned officers is shown by means of insignia on the tops of the epaulets, with uniforms of which epaulets form a part, and by decorations on the cuffs of the sleeves of the frock coat and service sack coat. These sleeve decorations are as shown in figure 1. All the stars shown are silver and the stripes shown are gold except in the case of the rank of commander where the second and fourth stripes are silver.

The officers of the line or command branch wear the rank insignia on the dark blue cloth of the coat sleeve; while the officers of the Staff Corps have cuffs of distinctive color beneath the stripes, these colors being for—

Engineer officers.....	Violet velvet.
Medical officers.....	Red velvet.
Construction, Ordnance, and Hydrographic officers.....	Black velvet.

Paymasters.....	Brown velvet.
Pharmacists.....	Green velvet.

On the white service tunic or coat the rank is indicated by stripes upon shoulder straps, these stripes being similar to those worn on the sleeve of the blue frock coat and tunic. The color of the shoulder straps for staff corps officers is as indicated in the table above.

The cap for flag officers is of blue cloth with a patent leather visor and a band of gold embroidery, and it has an insignia on the front consisting of a gold anchor with various decorations of leaves for the different grades and corps.

The cap for officers below the rank of rear admiral is of the same design, with narrow stripes of gold braid around the band to indicate the rank of the wearer. On ordinary service aboard ship a cap of the same design with a band of black silk ribbon is worn. The device worn on the front of the cap by these officers is a gold fowl anchor placed vertical.

Warrant officers wear dress uniforms similar to those worn by commissioned officers; their cap has one narrow gold stripe around the band and a gold anchor on the front, and their sleeves have three narrow stripes, the upper one of gold one-quarter of an inch wide, the middle one a twisted silver rope one-eighth of an inch wide and the lower one of gold of the same rope design.

The enlisted men of the French Navy wear uniforms of dark blue cloth for cold weather and of white for hot weather, those for the petty officers consisting of a plain cap with black leather visor, a sack coat with gilt buttons and plain trousers, and those for enlisted men of lower ratings consisting of a flat sailor cap, overshirt and trousers of a design similar to those worn in the British Navy. A prominent feature of their uniform cap is a red pompon in the center of the top of the crown.

The overcoats are of dark blue cloth of the design commonly styled "pea jackets."

The rating or rank of the petty officers is indicated by distinguishing marks worn upon the sleeves.

## UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA OF ROYAL ITALIAN NAVY

All winter uniforms for officers and enlisted men of the Royal Italian Navy are of dark blue cloth, and summer uniforms are of white cotton or linen material.

The cut of the winter uniforms is similar to those of the English Navy. Officers have the following winter uniforms: Special Full Dress, Full Dress, Dress, Undress, and corresponding summer uniforms, but of standard make. They also have a special evening dress uniform.

Special Full Dress consists of a double-breasted tail coat with open collar, cloth trousers with gold braid, patent leather high shoes. Accessories are: cocked hat and epaulets very similar to those worn in the U. S. Navy, sword with gold knots, and blue silk sash with tassels worn diagonally from right shoulder to left hip. Admirals wear aguillettes instead of epaulets. The uniform is worn with stiff shirt, wing-tip collars, and black bow tie.

Full Dress Uniform consists of double-breasted frock coat similar to those used by U. S. Naval Officers, cloth trousers and patent leather high shoes. Accessories are the same as those for Special Full Dress except that sword belt and knots are of black leather.

Dress Uniform is the same as Full Dress but with cap instead of cocked hat, without epaulets, with double collar and four-in-hand tie. This uniform may also be worn without sash or sword.

Summer Undress Uniform consists of a white single-breasted jacket with closed collars, of similar cut to those of U. S. Naval Officers; the coat has a white band around the edge of the collar, sleeves and coat; rank badges are worn on shoulder straps. The same uniform with the various accessories (sash and sword) is used for summer Special Full Dress and Full Dress.

In the Italian Navy rank is indicated by gold braid sewn on the coat sleeve, as shown in figure 1. The Corps to which an officer belongs is shown by the color of the background to which the gold braid is attached on the sleeve,

cap and shoulder straps, and by a special symbol in the cap badge.

The badge on the front of the cap consists of an oval medallion surrounded by two branches of gold laurel leaves surmounted by the Royal Crown of Italy in gold on a blue background. The badge is attached over the cap band where rank is indicated by strips of gold braid similar to those on the sleeve.

The colors and symbols of the various Corps are as follows:

Line Officers.....		Gold anchor on blue background.
Construction Corps.	Dark red velvet....	Gold helmet on dark red ground.
Naval Arms Corps.	Brown cloth.....	Anchor with Roman dagger on back ground.
Engineer Corps ...	Dark red cloth.....	3-blade propeller on black ground.
Medical Corps....	Light blue cloth....	Red cross on white ground.
Supply Corps.....	Purple cloth.....	Anchor with star on purple ground.

On the right-hand side of the cocked hat is a silk cockade in the Italian colors: red, white, and green.

Officers of the Enlisted Men's Corps (C. R. E. M.) wear the same uniforms as those of other Corps and wear a special badge of category below the stripes on the sleeve. Petty Officers have only winter and summer undress uniforms; senior petty officers also have a dress coat. Petty Officers' uniforms are similar to those of the officers, but with different rank and corps badges.

Warrant Officers wear the rank badge on the cap, shoulder, or shoulder-strap consisting of gold braid with diagonal stripes of blue silk. "Secondi Capi" and "Sergeants" wear rank and corps badges only on the sleeve above the elbow. The cap has a band of black silk with the same badge as the officers.

Enlisted men wear uniforms of blue cloth or white linen according to the season; these are similar in design to those of the principal navies.

A special characteristic of the uniforms of all the Italian armed forces are the "stars" worn by officers and petty officers on the tips of the coat of all uniforms and by sailors in the corners of the sailor collar.

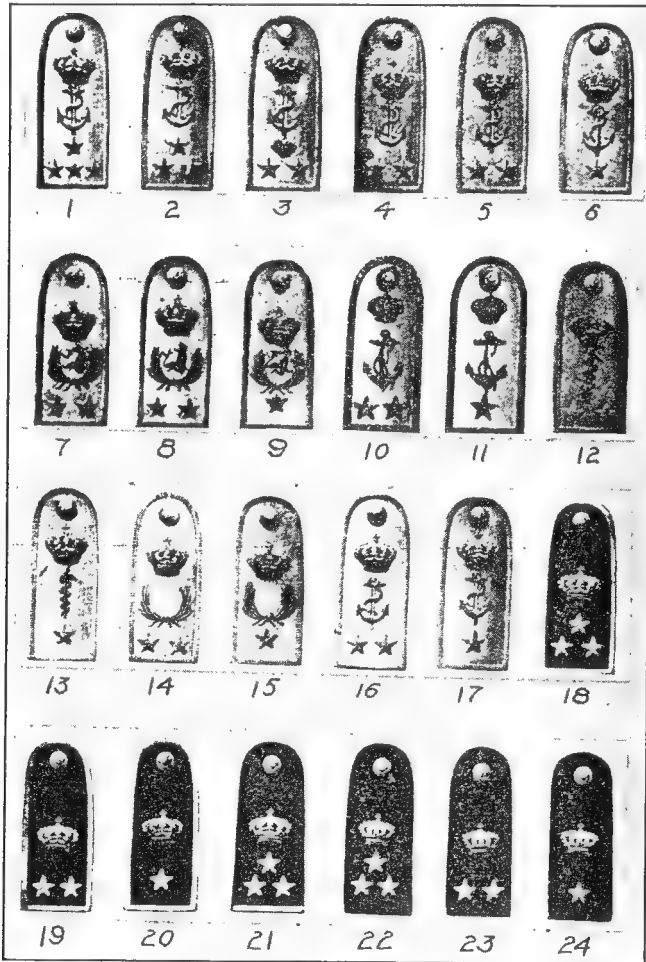


FIGURE 7.—Italian shoulder marks.



## UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA OF THE SPANISH NAVY

The uniforms of the Spanish Navy are dark blue for winter wear and resemble those of the British Service. The embroidery and other trimmings on the various dress uniforms, of course, differ from the British Naval dress uniforms. In summer a white service uniform is worn. Dark blue shoulder pieces upon which the rank is displayed are worn with the white uniform.

Figure 2 shows the sleeve markings to indicate rank as used at present (1940) in the Spanish Navy. The distinguishing colors used by the various commissioned branches are as follows:

Medical Corps.....	Red.
Naval Constructor.....	Blue.
Engineer.....	Green.
Supply Corps.....	White.
Judicial Officer.....	Purple.
Chaplain.....	Mole.
Librarian.....	Blue.
Astronomical.....	Greenish brown.
Pharmacist.....	Yellow.

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### LEGEND FOR FIGURE 7

1. Admiral (CinC) Crown on gold background with maroon base.
2. Admiral (Fleet Comdr.) Crown with maroon background.
3. Vice Admiral (Fleet Comdr.) Crown with maroon background.
4. Vice Admiral (Squad. Comdr.) Crown with maroon background.
5. Rear Admiral (Div. Comdr.).
6. Rear Admiral.
7. General Inspector of Naval Engineering. Crown on maroon base.
8. Lieutenant General (Naval Engineers).
9. Major General (Naval Engineers).
10. Lieutenant General (Naval Ordnance).
11. Major General (Naval Ordnance).
12. Lieutenant General (Medical Corps).
13. Major General (Medical Corps).
14. Lieutenant General (Supply Corps).
15. Major General (Supply Corps).
16. Lieutenant General (Harbor Masters).
17. Major General (Harbor Masters).
18. Captain.
19. Commander.
20. Lieutenant Commander.
21. Senior Lieutenant.
22. Lieutenant.
23. Ensign.
24. Midshipman.

The above colors appear between the gold stripes. The loop above the top gold stripe is omitted in the specialist branches and in lieu of this is substituted the following distinguishing marks:

Medical Corps.....	Maltese cross.
Naval Constructor.....	Catherine wheel.
Engineer.....	Gear wheel.
Supply Corps.....	Sun with radiating rays.
Judicial Officer.....	Bundle of lictor rods.
Chaplain.....	Cross above which is a laurel wreath.
Librarian.....	Book.

### UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA OF THE JAPANESE NAVY

The uniforms and insignia of the Imperial Japanese Navy follow the conventional pattern of all navies with a few distinctive features of national significance. Where other navies

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#### LEGEND FOR FIGURE 8

- |                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Admiral.      | 5. Commander.            |
| 2. Vice Admiral. | 6. Lieutenant Commander. |
| 3. Rear Admiral. | 7. Lieutenant.           |
| 4. Captain.      | 8. Lieutenant (jr. gr.). |
|                  | 9. Ensign.               |

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#### COLOR BANDS

Line—None.	Construction Corps—Brown.
Engineer Corps—Violet.	Engineer Construction Corps—Brown.
Medical Corps—Red.	Ordnance Corps—Maroon.
Supply Corps—White.	Hydrographic Corps—Blue.

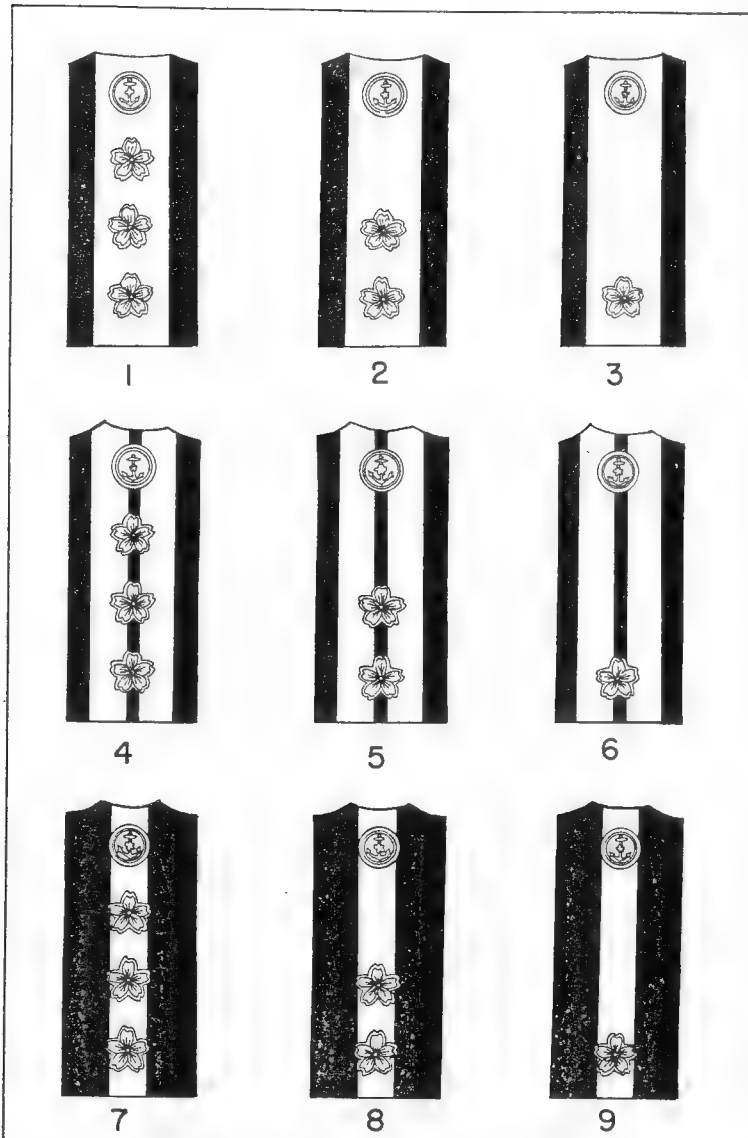


FIGURE 8.—Japanese shoulder marks.

use stars, crowns or stripes on shoulder marks to denote steps in rank, the Japanese use flowers imposed on stripes. The officer's service uniform is similar to the old U. S. Navy

service uniform with sleeve stripes of black braid and miniature shoulder marks as collar devices. The uniforms of enlisted men are the usual flat hat and loosely cut blouses and trousers.

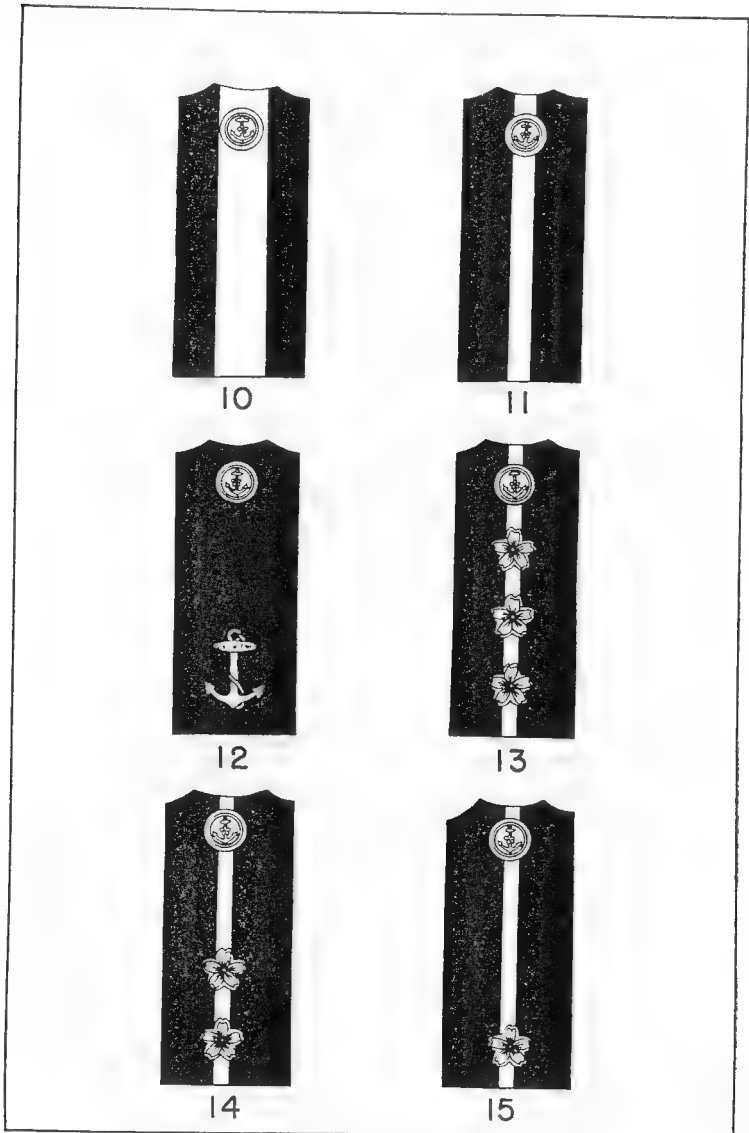


FIGURE 9.—Japanese shoulder marks.

The uniforms for both officers and enlisted men are of dark blue cloth for full dress and dress uniforms, the undress or service uniform being of dark blue cloth for winter wear and of white cotton duck or linen for wear in hot weather.

The rank of officers is indicated by stripes around the sleeves above the cuff on the blue uniforms as shown in figure 1 and by shoulder straps on the white service uniform as shown in figures 8 and 9. The sleeve stripes are of gold lace braid for full dress and dress coats and of black braid for the blue service coat.

The corps or branch of the service to which an officer belongs is shown by stripes of colored cloth between the rank stripes for the officers of the Staff Corps. All corps use the circle or curl above the top gold stripe. The distinctive

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LEGEND FOR FIGURE 9

10. *Past* Midshipman (full width gold stripe).
11. Warrant Officer (1/2 width gold stripe).
12. Midshipman.
13. Lieutenant (special service).
14. Lieutenant (junior grade) (special service).
15. Ensign (special service).

NOTE.—A Warrant Officer, when commissioned, becomes an Ensign (special service).

colors between the gold stripes for the various corps are as follows:

Engineer Corps.....	Purple.
Medical Corps.....	Red.
Engineer Constructors.....	Brown.
Ordnance Constructors.....	Maroon.
Paymaster Corps.....	White.
Hydrographic Corps.....	Light blue.
Chief Carpenter (warrant officers).....	Green.
Bandmasters (warrant officers).....	Indigo.

These distinctive colors for officers of the different Staff Corps are also worn around the bands of the caps.

The rank or rating of enlisted men who are petty officers or who are assigned to special duties is shown by distinctive marks worn on the left sleeve of the coat or overshirt.

### UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA OF THE GERMAN NAVY

The uniforms of the officers and men of the German Navy are made of dark blue cloth for winter wear and of white duck for hot weather as in other navies, but there are several distinctive features. The officers have no special full dress coat with the swallow-tail effect, a frock coat taking its place; and the enlisted men have in addition to the ordinary sailor shirts with the wide falling light-blue collar with 3 rows of narrow white braid around the edge, a dress jacket reaching to the waist line and roached over the hips. This jacket has a row of small buttons down each side of the front and also on each cuff, and is worn unbuttoned with the falling collar of the shirt outside of it. It is the prevailing liberty uniform, especially in foreign ports, when whites are not worn. The only other Service with a similar jacket is the Netherlands Navy.

The full dress uniform consists of a cocked hat similar to that worn by the British naval officers (gold braid trimming for flag officers only); a long double-breasted frock coat; trousers with gold lace stripes down the outer leg seams; black shoes; a sword belt covered with silver lace, and epaulets.

The dress uniform consists of a frock coat, silver sword belt, shoulder knots, and officer's cap, plain blue trousers and

black shoes. A short sword or dirk replaces the full dress uniform's sword with this uniform.

The blue service uniform consists of the officer's cap, a double-breasted square cut sack coat like that worn by British officers (but with 5 pairs of buttons instead of four), plain dark blue trousers and black shoes. Collar and tie same as in the U. S. Navy. Blue or white cap covers worn under the same conditions as in U. S. Navy, save that they are much larger.

The white service uniform consists of a white cap, a white single-breasted sack coat with standing collar, shoulder knots (there are no "shoulder straps" in the German Navy), and white trousers and black or white shoes depending upon the occasion. When worn, the dirk is suspended from a black leather belt worn underneath the coat. A variation for shipboard use is a combination of white coat and blue trousers and black shoes.

The overcoat is a long double-breasted coat cut to fit the figure, buttoning to the neck, with a wide falling collar and an outside pocket with flap on each side below the waist. It is closed by gilt buttons, one row on each side; rank is indicated by the shoulder knots which are worn with this coat. In addition, German naval officers have a cape, with a collar similar to that of the overcoat, which is held in place by a gilt link chain connecting two large gilt buttons. Enlisted men wear a peajacket, with gilt buttons and light blue rectangular patches on the lapels.

All German uniforms from officers' full dress to blue-jackets' shirts and peajackets, but excepting officers' overcoats and capes, have the so-called "Hoheitsabzeichen" or national emblem sewed on the right side, between lapel or collar and shoulder. This emblem, which resembles aviation insignia in other services, consists of a spread eagle surmounting a wreath enclosing a swastika; it is gold for blue uniforms and blue for white uniforms.

All ranks, from flag officers down to midshipmen and chief petty officers wear a visor cap similar to that of U. S. Navy officers and chief warrant officers. The cap device is the same for all ranks—a black-white-red cockade surrounded

by a gold oak-leaf wreath and surmounted by the "National emblem." Those below commissioned rank have a plain black visor, ranks up to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stripes have a thin gold rim to the visor, ranks with 3 and 4 stripes have a heavy gold rim to the visor, while flag officers' caps have visor decoration similar to that of the U. S. Navy. Chin straps are all of black leather. Seamen and all ratings below C. P. O.'s wear flat hats similar to that of the U. S. Navy, save that the cap covers are much larger, and are blue for winter and white for summer uniform. A black-white-red cockade surmounted by the national emblem is mounted on the front face of the cap cover. Cap bands have two long ribbons aft; the name of the ship, station, or small-craft formation is printed on this band in gold gothic-print letters.

Following the universal custom, the rank of German naval officers is indicated by stripes on blue uniform sleeves, as indicated in Figure 1. The breadth of stripes is practically the same as in our Service, save that in ranks of Captain and below they are set somewhat further above the cuff. The corps or branch of the service to which officers belong is indicated by a special device (shown in fig. 10) above these stripes. A distinctive feature of the German Navy is that there are two combatant branches besides the Line—Gunnery Officers and Underwater-Weapons Officers. A special device replaces the star of the line officer to indicate the special corps or branch as in our Service:

Line Officers..... Star (5-pointed as in U. S. Navy).

Gunnery Officers..... Crossed cannon.

Underwater-Weapons Offi- Mine.  
cers.

*Staff:*

Engineering Officers.. Pinion wheel.

Medical Officers..... Staff and snake (rod of Aesculapius).

Supply Officers..... Winged staff with 2 coiled snakes  
(winged staff of Hermes).

*Reserve:*

Line Officers..... Star above 2 oak leaves.

Communications Offi- Lightning bolt above 2 oak leaves.  
cers.



Line officers wear a silver fowl anchor on epaulets, all other branches wear their distinctive device in place of the anchor on epaulets, and also surmounted on shoulder knots. German midshipmen wear officers' service uniforms, but without any stripes. Instead they wear light shoulder straps as indicated in figure 10.

The rank of warrant officer has been abolished in the German Navy. Their duties have been taken over by the "Feldwebel," a rank borrowed from the German Army which has no equivalent in our Service. The "Feldwebel" may be considered a grade halfway between the C. P. O. and warrant officer; they perform the duties of both. Like the midshipmen they wear officers' service uniform coats, without stripes but with distinctive shoulder straps, as indicated in figure 10. German naval cadets (junior midshipmen) wear seamen's uniforms on board, and officer's service uniform jacket ashore, but without any rank insignia save a star set in a gold ellipse. (See fig. 10.) This is worn on the left sleeve. The seamen's uniform has been described above. It may be added that their trousers have a tailored cut, with neither the "bagginess" of the British nor the "bell-mouthed" effect of the American Services. The rank or rating and the branch of specialty is indicated by distinctive marks on the left sleeve between the elbow and the shoulder.

Another innovation of the German Navy is its corps of civil-service officials, which is uniformed and has a scale of grades paralleling that of commissioned ranks of the Navy proper, up to and including the grade of Rear Admiral. As this corps serves ashore, its members are not likely to be met in German naval vessels operating or cruising outside of home waters. The main distinguishing feature of the uniform of this German naval civil-service corps is that cap devices, sleeve stripes, and buttons are silver instead of gilt. It includes the following Staff Corps branches:

- Ordnance Specialists.
- Naval Constructors.
- Administration Officials.
- Supplies and Accounts Officials (ashore).
- Legal Officials.

## Die wichtigsten Uniformen und Abzeichen der Kriegsmarine

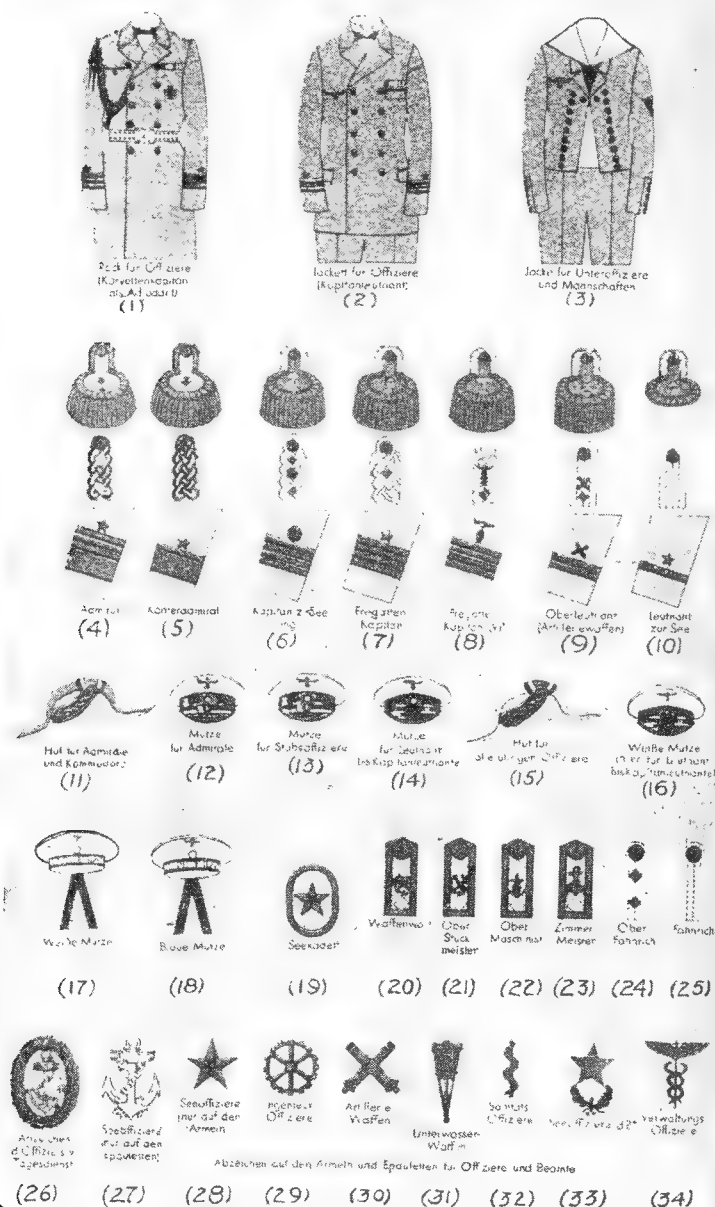


FIGURE 10.—German Navy insignia.

## LEGEND FOR FIGURE 10

(NOTE.—Recognized American equivalents given in case of commissioned grades)

- (1) Officers' frock coat, Lieutenant Commander (Adjutant).
- (2) Service blue—Lieutenant.
- (3) Dress jacket—Seamen.
- (4) Admiral (Line).
- (5) Rear Admiral (Line).
- (6) Captain (Engineering Officer).
- (7) Commander (Line).
- (8) Commander (Supply Corps).
- (9) Lieutenant (jr. gr.) (Gunnery Officer).
- (10) Ensign (Line).
- (11) Cocked hat—for flag officers and Commodores.
- (12) Cap—flag officers.
- (13) Cap—Captains, Commanders, and Lieutenant Commanders.
- (14) Cap—commissioned grades of Lieutenant and below.
- (15) Cocked hat—for officers other than flag officers.
- (16) Same as (14)—white cap cover.
- (17) Seamen's flat hat, white cap cover.
- (18) Seamen's flat hat, blue cap cover.
- (19) Naval Cadet insignia—for sleeve of jacket or shirt).
- (20) "Feldwebel" (C. P. O.)—Ordnance (shoulder straps).
- (21) "Feldwebel" (C. P. O.)—Gunnery (shoulder straps).
- (22) "Feldwebel" (C. P. O.)—Engineering Force (shoulder straps).
- (23) "Feldwebel" (C. P. O.)—Carpenter (shoulder straps).
- (24) Past Midshipmen (shoulder straps).
- (25) Midshipmen (shoulder straps).
- (26) Badge of Officer-of-the-Deck, pinned on uniform and only worn when having the deck.
- (27) Line officers—Silver foul anchor (on epaulets only).
- (28) Line officers—Star (on sleeves).
- (29) Engineering officers—Pinion wheel (on sleeves, shoulder knots and epaulets).
- (30) Gunnery officers—Crossed cannon (on sleeves, shoulder knots and epaulets).
- (31) Underwater weapons officers: Mine (on sleeves, shoulder knots and epaulets).
- (32) Medical officers—Device (on sleeves, shoulder knots and epaulets).
- (33) Reserve Line officers—On sleeves only.
- (34) Supply officers—Worn as in case of medical officers, etc.

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 ADDITION

Since the outbreak of the current war all ranks, from seaman to flag officer, have come to wear an "overseas" cap. It is similar in cut to that of the German Army, is of blue cloth, has no piping, but has the usual national emblem surmounting a simple black-white-red cockade. This head gear is apparently only worn afloat.

# TABLE OF COMPARATIVE RANK (U. S. NAVY vs. GERMAN NAVY)

U. S. NAVY		GERMAN NAVY	
RANK	NUMBER OF STRIPES	NUMBER OF STRIPES	RANK
Ensign.....	1.....	1.....	Leutnant. "Lieutenant."
Lieutenant (jr. gr.)...	1½.....	2.....	Oberleutnant. "Senior Lieutenant."
Lieutenant.....	2.....	2½.....	Kapitaenleutnant. "Lieutenant Captain."
Lieutenant Com- mander.....	2½.....	3.....	Korvettenkapitaen. "Corvette Captain."
Commander.....	3.....	4.....	Fregattenkapitaen. "Frigate Captain."
Captain.....	4.....	4.....	Kapitaen zur See. "Captain at Sea."
Commodore (abol- ished).....	1 broad	4—with shoulder knots of Rear Adm.	Kommodor. "Commodore."
Rear Admiral.....	1 broad and 1.	-----	Konter-Admiral. "Rear Admiral."
Vice Admiral.....	1 broad and 2.	-----	Vize-Admiral. "Vice Admiral."
Admiral.....	1 broad and 3.	-----	General-Admiral. "General Admiral."
No equivalent rank...	2 broad	1 broad and 4, with crossed marshal's batons on shoul- der knots.	Gross Admiral. "Grand Admiral."

(The German Navy holds that rank should go as per stripes, giving them 2 grades of commander.)

## UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA OF THE RUSSIAN NAVY

The break with the Czarist past, brought about by the Bolshevik Revolution and the establishment of the U. S. S. R., is well illustrated in the change of Soviet naval uniforms. While the seamen's uniform remains essentially unchanged, those of the officers and C. P. O.'s have been completely altered. All full dress and dress uniforms have been abolished. In common with all uniforms of the Soviet

Union, whether Army, Air Force, Police, etc., shoulder markings of all descriptions have been discarded—even for white uniforms.

Officers' uniforms, whether blue or white, are of the single-breasted blouse type, with a standing collar and a single row of buttons. Rank is exclusively indicated on the sleeve, just above the cuff; with the blue uniform the rank stripes are of gold, and only extend for the outboard side of the sleeve; with the white uniform a patch with short stripes, not unlike a U. S. Navy shoulder strap in shape, is sewed on the sleeve. There is, in addition, an off-duty uniform, which resembles the U. S. Navy service blues, but with the usual half stripes. Head dress consists of a conventional cap, with either a blue or white cap cover depending upon the season. The cap device is similar to that of Great Britain, save that the crown is replaced by a 5-pointed star enclosing the Soviet hammer and sickle emblem. From photographs, it appears that the Russian Navy is quite partial to mixed uniforms: dark trousers with white blouses, and vice versa. Gilt chin straps were recently introduced for officers' caps.

Enlisted men wear blue cloth trousers, resembling the German rather than the British or American in cut, a jersey with blue and white horizontal stripes and a blue jumper. White duck uniforms of the same pattern are worn in hot weather. At times the colors of the trousers and jumpers are mixed. A flat hat, with blue or white cap cover depending upon the season, and resembling the British in shape, is worn. The ribbon is tied aft with 2 long streamers down the back. The name of ship or station is printed in gold Russian letters on this ribbon; the Soviet star replaces the former Czar's cockade on the front of the cap above this ribbon.

Comparative ranks are as follows:

U. S. NAVY	STRIPES	RUSSIAN NAVY
RANK		RANK (English Translation)
Ensign.....	1½.....	Junior Lieutenant.
Lieutenant (jr. gr.).....	} 2.....	Senior Lieutenant.
Lieutenant.....		
Lieutenant Commander.....	2½ <sup>1</sup> .....	Lieutenant-Captain.
Commander.....	3.....	Captain, 3d rank.
Captain.....	4.....	Captain, 2d rank.
Rear Admiral.....	1 broad and 1.....	Flagman, 2d rank.
Vice Admiral.....	1 broad and 2.....	Flagman, 1st rank.
Admiral.....	1 broad and 3.....	Fleet Flagman, 2d rank.
Admiral of the Navy.....	2 broad and 3.....	Fleet Flagman, 1st rank.

<sup>1</sup> The 2½ stripes are arranged such that the 2 full stripes are together and the half stripe is above these 2 full stripes.

In addition there is a rank equivalent to our Commodore (now obsolete in the U. S. Navy)—with 1 broad stripe, entitled—"Captain, 1st rank."

The line officers wear a large gilt five-pointed star in outline above the rank stripes.

Political commissars wear the same uniform as the Soviet naval officers, but with an extra stripe in red between the stripes and the star of their rank insignia.

### UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN NAVIES

The uniforms of both the officers and enlisted men of the various navies of the South American countries follow very closely those of the British and United States navies in cut, design, and color so that the various ranks are readily recognizable. The sleeve markings to distinguish officers rank are as shown in figure 3.

